

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-14 USIE-00 INRE-00 IO-12 AID-20 EUR-25

RSR-01 /129 R

DRAFTED BY USOAS: JJJOVA: MJ

EXT 29376 4/2/73

APPROVED BY USOAS: JJJOVA

LA/ CEN: DLAZAR

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O 022100 Z APR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 060307

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAS, HO, ES

SUBJECT: SALVADOR/ HONDURAS DISPUTE IN OASGA

REF: TEGUCIGALPA 1224

1. YOU CAN SAFELY REASSURE HONDURAN AUTHORITIES THAT THERE WILL BE NO DISPOSITION TO CLOSE 13 TH MFM AT THIS TIME IN VIEW OF FACT THAT AT LEAST ONE PARTY WISHES IT TO REMAIN OPEN. IN FACT, WE HAVE ALREADY GIVEN INFORMAL REASSURANCES ALONG THIS LINE TO FOREIGN MINISTER BATRES AND AMBASSADOR GALVEZ WHOM JOVA SAW AT SOCIAL OCCASION LAST NIGHT BEFORE RECEIVING YOUR TELEGRAM. BATRES SAID HE HAD TRAVELLED ON PLANE WITH BORGONOVO WHO ASSURED HIM THAT HE ALSO AGREED THAT MFM SHOULD REMAIN OPEN AND WOULD JOIN BATRES IN SO REQUESTING.

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2. THE COMMITTEE OF SEVEN IS SCHEDULED TO MEET THIS AFTER-NOON TO HEAR BOTH FOREIGN MINISTERS. BATRES TOLD US THAT

HIS ARGUMENTATION WOULD BE TO THE EFFECT THAT BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS HAD REACHED DEADEND ON FRONTIER ISSUE; GUATEMALAN INITIATIVES HAD BEEN HELPFUL BUT NOW HAD BEEN REDUCED TO EXPRESSIONS OF CENTRAL AMERICAN GOODWILL; HONDURAN/ SALVADORAN PROBLEM SHOULD BE DEALT WITH AS A PACKAGE WHICH WOULD INCLUDE FRONTIER DISPUTE AS WELL AS OPENING OF HIGHWAY, ETC.; COMMITTEE OF SEVEN (OR MFM)

SHOULD BID BOTH COUNTRIES SOLVE MATTERS BILATERALLY BUT SHOULD OBTAIN ADVANCE AGREEMENT FROM PARTIES TO RESORT TO ARBITRATION, NEGOTIATION OR WHATEVER IF BILATERALS REACHED IMPASSE. BATRES WOULD FORMALLY ASSURE COMMITTEE THAT IN NO CASE WOULD ARBITRATION AFFECT MORE THAN 400 SQUARE KILOMETERS OF DISPUTED TERRITORY WHICH, IN HIS OPINION, COULD BE FURTHER REDUCED THROUGH BILATERAL NEGOTIATION TO HARDCORE DISPUTED AREA OF SOME 120 SQUARE KILOMETERS.

3. WILL ADVISE YOU RESULTS OF THIS AFTERNOON' S MEETING IN DUE COURSE. RUSH

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